AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for generating information models, comprising:

incorporating definitions of a plurality of subcomponents of an overall system to generate a first information model in coded form in a first description language;

storing the first information model in a computer running a first database;

using the first information model to generate one or more product-specific information models by selecting one or more first parameters; and

storing the one or more product-specific information models in a computer running a second database;

using the one or more product-specific information models to generate one or more project-specific information models by selecting one or more second parameters; and

storing the one or more project-specific information models in a computer running a third database.

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more product-specific information models are coded in a second description language different from the first description language.

4. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more product-specific information models describe one or more network elements of a communications network.

5. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, further comprising using the one or more product-specific information models to generate one or more software components for one or more network elements of a communications network.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): A method for processing information models, comprising:

incorporating definitions of a plurality of subcomponents of an overall system to generate a first information model in coded form in a first description language;

storing the first information model in a computer running a first database;

using the first information model to generate one or more product profiles or a comparison of two or more product profiles ~~and~~;

storing the one or more product profiles or the comparison of two or more product profiles in a computer running a second database;

using the first information model to generate one or more product-specific information models by selecting one or more first parameters;

storing the one or more product-specific information models in a computer running a third database;

using the one or more product-related information models to generate one or more, project-specific information models by selecting one or more second parameters;

storing the one or more project-specific information models in a computer running a fourth database;

using the one or more project-specific information models to generate one or more product profiles or a comparison of two or more product profiles; and

storing the one or more product profiles or the comparison of two or more product profiles in a computer running a fifth database.

8. (currently amended): A method according to claim 7, further comprising:

using the first information model to generate one or more product-specific information models by selecting one or more first parameters;

storing the one or more product-specific information models in a computer running a third database;

using the one or more product-specific information models to generate one or more product profiles or a comparison of two or more product profiles and;

storing the one or more product profiles or the comparison of two or more product profiles in a computer running a fourth database.

9. (canceled).

10. (currently amended): An information-processing system tangibly embodied on a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to implement a method of generating information models, said method comprising:

incorporating definitions of a plurality of subcomponents of an overall system to generate a first information model in coded form in a first description language;

storing the first information model in a computer running a first database;

using the first information model to generate one or more product-specific information models by selecting one or more first parameters; and

storing the one or more product-specific information models in a computer running a second database;

using the one or more product-specific information models to generate one or more project-specific information models by selecting one or more second parameters; and

storing the one or more project-specific information models in a computer running a third database.

11. (currently amended): A software product tangibly embodied on a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to implement a method of generating information models, said method comprising:

incorporating definitions of a plurality of subcomponents of an overall system to generate a first information model in coded form in a first description language;

storing the first information model in a computer running a first database;

using the first information model to generate one or more product-specific information models by selecting one or more first parameters; and

storing the one or more product-specific information models in a computer running a second database;

using the one or more product-specific information models to generate one or more project-specific information models by selecting one or more second parameters; and

storing the one or more project-specific information models in a computer running a third database.

12. (currently amended): An information-processing system according to claim 10, wherein ~~tangibly embodied on a program storage medium readable by a computer and~~

~~embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to implement a method of processing information models,~~ said method ~~comprising~~ further comprises:

~~incorporating definitions of a plurality of subcomponents of an overall system to generate a first information model in coded form in a first description language;~~

~~storing the first information model in a first database;~~

using the first information model to generate one or more product profiles or a comparison of two or more product profiles and;

storing the one or more product profiles or the comparison of two or more product profiles in a ~~second~~ computer running a fourth database.

13. (currently amended): A software product according to claim 11, wherein ~~for use tangibly embodied on a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to implement a method of processing information models,~~ said method ~~comprising~~ further comprises:

~~incorporating definitions of a plurality of subcomponents of an overall system to generate a first information model in coded form in a first description language;~~

~~storing the first information model in a first database;~~

using the first information model to generate one or more product profiles or a comparison of two or more product profiles and;

storing the one or more product profiles or the comparison of two or more product profiles in a ~~second~~ computer running a fourth database.

14. (previously presented): A method for generating information models according to claim 1, further comprising an integrated database structure comprising the first database and the second database.

15. (currently amended): A method for generating information models according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, further comprising an integrated database structure comprising two or more of the first database, the second database and the third database.

16. (previously presented): A method for processing information models according to claim 7, further comprising an integrated database structure comprising the first database and the second database.

17. (previously presented): A method for processing information models according to claim 8, further comprising an integrated database structure comprising two or more of the first database, the second database, the third database and the fourth database.

18. (currently amended): A method for processing information models according to ~~claim 9~~ claim 7, further comprising an integrated database structure comprising two or more of the first database, the second database, the third database, the fourth database and the fifth database.

19. (previously presented): A method for generating information models according to claim 1, further comprising signaling a syntactical error when at least one syntactical error exists in the definitions of the subcomponents.

20. (previously presented): A method for generating information models according to claim 1, further comprising identifying an unresolved link when at least one unresolved link exists between the definitions of the subcomponents.

21. (previously presented): A method for generating information models according to claim 1, further comprising recognizing and signaling a contradictory specification among the definitions when the contradictory specification among the definitions of the subcomponents exists.

22. (previously presented): A method for processing information models according to claim 7, further comprising signaling a syntactical error when at least one syntactical error exists in the definitions of the subcomponents.

23. (previously presented): A method for processing information models according to claim 7, further comprising identifying an unresolved link when at least one unresolved link exists between the definitions of the subcomponents.

24. (previously presented): A method for processing information models according to claim 7, further comprising recognizing and signaling a contradictory specification among the definitions when the contradictory specification among the definitions of the subcomponents exists.